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United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Office of  
Public Affairs

# Selected Speeches and News Releases

October 18 - October 25, 1990

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U.S. Department of Agriculture • Office of Public Affairs

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## USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET PRICE FOR UPLAND COTTON

Washington, Oct. 18—Under Secretary of Agriculture Richard T. Crowder today announced the prevailing world market price, adjusted to U.S. quality and location (adjusted world price), for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16 inch (micronaire 3.5-4.9) upland cotton (base quality) and the coarse count adjustment in effect from 12:01 a.m. Friday, Oct. 19, through midnight Thursday, Oct. 25.

Since the adjusted world price (AWP) is above the 1988, 1989, and 1990 crop base quality loan rates of 51.80, 50.00 and 50.27 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rates for the 1988, 1989 and 1990 crops of upland cotton during this period are equal to the respective loan rates for the specific quality and location.

The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates. Because the AWP in effect is above the established loan rate, loan deficiency payments are not available for 1990-crop upland cotton sold during this period.

Based on data for the week ending Oct. 18, the AWP for upland cotton and the coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

*Chart follows on next page.*



Adjusted World Price	
Northern Europe Price .....	81.53
Adjustments:	
Average U.S. spot market location .....	13.17
SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton .....	2.15
Average U.S. location .....	0.35
Sum of Adjustments .....	<u>-15.67</u>
ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE .....	65.86 cents/lb.

Coarse Count Adjustment	
Northern Europe Price .....	81.53
Northern Europe Coarse Count Price .....	<u>-76.82</u>
	4.71
Adjustment to SLM 1-1/32 inch cotton .....	<u>-4.10</u>
COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT .....	0.61 cents/lb.

The next AWP and coarse count adjustment announcement will be made on Thursday, Oct. 25.

Charles Cunningham (202) 447-7954  
#

## USDA FOOD DRIVE CAPS OFF WORLD FOOD WEEK

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Jack Parnell today helped load a truck with food donated to the Capital Area Community Food Bank by U.S. Department of Agriculture employees who made their gifts in recognition of World Food Week.

“The food from our ‘Mission: Nutrition’ drive will find it’s way to the needy through the many soup kitchens and charitable agencies served by the Capital Area Community Food Bank,” Parnell said.

“What we’ve done here is the result of teamwork between ‘points of light.’ The baton of charity was passed from the generous folks at USDA, to the Food Bank and then to the scores of community centers which serve those in need in the area,” he said.

The food drive was launched at the beginning of the week as one of a number of events in recognition of World Food Week, Oct. 15-19.

Kelly Shipp (202) 447-4623  
Al Maruggi (202) 447-5654

#

## ROGER K. CONWAY APPOINTED HEAD OF USDA'S ENERGY OFFICE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter today announced the appointment of Dr. Roger K. Conway as director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Energy.

Conway will oversee implementation and coordination of department policies concerning energy use on farms and within USDA.

“Roger's expertise in analytical economics will be put to good use by the demands of his new position,” said Yeutter. “Energy has recently become an even more important cost input for America's farmers, and policy implementation, too, has become more complex as the United States develops alternative fuel sources manufactured in part from agricultural products.”

Yeutter said one of Conway's first priorities will be the full implementation of a new USDA policy requiring the use of ethanol or ETBE-blended gasoline in all department vehicles when such fuels are available at competitive prices.

Conway joined USDA in 1978 as an agricultural economist specializing in economic modeling for USDA's Economic Research Service. In 1985, he worked with the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis as an econometrician.

In 1986, Conway became section leader of the Productivity and Public Policy Section of the ERS Resources and Technology Division. In that capacity, he led program initiatives to redesign the USDA productivity indices and introduce advances in agricultural production economics into the staff analysis and policymaking process.

Conway has published numerous articles in professional journals on a wide range of economic and econometric topics, including international trade, commodity policy, global warming, agricultural investment and macroeconomic policy.

Conway is a Virginia native. He received his bachelor's degree and doctorate in economics from The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. He received his master's degree in economics from George Mason University, Fairfax, Va.

Kelly Shipp (202) 447-4623  
Al Maruggi (202) 447-5654

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## **GRAIN INSPECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MEET**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Advisory Committee will hold its first meeting for fiscal 1991 here at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 8, in the Capitol Holiday Inn, 550 C Street, S.W.

According to FGIS Administrator John C. Foltz, the agenda includes status of financial matters, cost savings through automation, subcommittee report on finances, international monitoring activities, international standards activities, moisture reference methods, safety activities, and Grain Quality Improvement Act task force report.

The committee is composed of 15 members appointed by the secretary of agriculture to represent all segments of the grain industry, including producers, in advising the FGIS administrator on implementation of the U.S. Grain Standards Act.

The meeting is open to the public. Persons who wish to address the committee or submit written statements before or after the meeting should contact John C. Foltz, Administrator, FGIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 96454, Washington, D.C. 20090-6454; telephone (202) 382-0219.

Allen A. Atwood (202) 475-3367

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## **USDA REVISES IMPORTED PORK ASSESSMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—Effective Nov. 21, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will adopt a regulation to revise the numbers used to identify imported pork assessed under the Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Act of 1985. The revision reflects interim numbers used since July 19 by the U.S. Customs Service, which collects the assessments.

Identification numbers distinguish certain cuts of pork, or other traded goods, and are part of a system used to collect tariffs on all imports. The U.S. Department of Commerce also uses the numbers for tabulating import statistics. The numbering system was devised by the Customs Cooperation Council in Brussels in 1974, and it was adopted by the



United States in 1989 as a result of the Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988.

Since Jan. 1, 1989, when USDA revised its imported pork assessment identification numbers to correspond with revisions in the new harmonized tariff system (HTS), the Customs Service has deleted seven and added 14 new HTS numbers identifying imported pork. Regulations under the order implementing the act contain USDA's HTS numbers schedule, and the seven deletions and 14 additions are being made to those regulations.

Authorized by the 1985 act, the assessments are added to those collected on domestic sales of hogs to fund promotion and research programs as authorized by the act for the pork industry. The National Pork Board, created under the act, receives the assessments.

Notice of the revision will appear as a final rule in the Oct. 22 Federal Register. Copies are available from the Marketing Programs Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 2624-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, telephone (202) 382-1118.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

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## **NORTH CAROLINA ADVANCES, NEW JERSEY RECEDES IN SWINE BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has declared North Carolina free of swine brucellosis and, in a separate action, has rescinded this status for New Jersey due to an outbreak of the disease in three herds there.

Now that North Carolina is officially free of brucellosis, swine producers there will no longer have to test breeding animals for this disease prior to moving them between states. In New Jersey, this requirement is being reinstated until the disease is eradicated there.

As a result of a cooperative eradication campaign, 34 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands have been validated as free of swine brucellosis. This number remains unchanged with the addition of North Carolina and the deletion of New Jersey. Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service say their objective is to eradicate the disease nationwide within the next five years.

Swine brucellosis is an infectious bacterial disease that causes pregnant

sows to abort or give birth to weak piglets. It is caused by *Brucella suis*, a bacterium that can be transmitted from swine to people, generally those who handle infected live animals or carcasses.

The current change in status of the two states is being published in two interim rules in the Federal Register, and public comments are invited. The change for New Jersey is being published Oct. 19 as docket 90-161 with the comment period closing Dec. 18. The change for North Carolina is being published Oct. 17 as docket 90-162, with the comment period closing Dec. 17.

An original and three copies of written comments referring to the appropriate docket should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 866 Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Comments may be inspected at USDA, Rm. 1141-S, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

The 34 states free of swine brucellosis are: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are also free of swine brucellosis.

Amichai Heppner (301) 436-5222

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## **USDA LIFTS MEXICAN FRUIT FLY QUARANTINE FROM SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is lifting its quarantine for Mexican fruit fly (Mexfly) from San Diego County, Calif., enabling fruits and vegetables to be moved freely from the area.

“We can lift the quarantine now because the Mexfly infestation in San Diego County has been eradicated,” said James W. Glosser, administrator of USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. “No Mexfly has been trapped in the area since May 5.”



Glosser said portions of Los Angeles County remain under quarantine because of a separate Mexfly infestation there.

The San Diego County quarantine was imposed on June 26. The quarantined area comprised 73 square miles centered in the city of El Cajon, where the Mexflies were found. The quarantine affected 70 fruit or produce markets, 30 nurseries, 5 wholesale distributors and 16 commercial growers, mainly producing avocados and citrus.

An interim rule, effective Oct. 18, details the area where the quarantine is being lifted; the rule is being published in the Oct. 23 Federal Register.

Comments will be accepted if they are received on or before Dec. 24. An original and three copies of written comments referring to docket 90-207 should be sent to Chief, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, Room 866, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Comments may be inspected at USDA, Rm. 1141-S, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Caree Lawrence (301) 436-7280

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## **USDA AMENDS REGULATIONS TO IMPORT CERTAIN FRUITS FROM CHILE**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has amended its regulations to allow the importation of stonefruit (apricots, nectarines, peaches and plums) from Chile based on pre-clearance inspection, as long as certain precautions are taken. Importation based on fumigation, which was previously mandatory, is still an accepted option.

Precautions include inspection of the fruit in Chile. Also, all shipments must be completely covered with tarpaulins, or be enclosed in containers or sealed trucks during movement from the inspection facility to the vessel or aircraft.

Activities to determine the eligibility of these kinds of fruit shipments to the United States, are called “pre-clearance” to distinguish them from similar inspections, treatments and other procedures performed by APHIS inspectors at ports of arrival in the United States. Inspections conducted in Chile are comparable in effectiveness to inspections at the port of entry in the United States.

These pre-clearance inspections are performed under the direction of APHIS inspectors in Chile and are carried out either by APHIS inspectors or by inspectors of the national plant protection service of Chile in the presence of APHIS inspectors. Fruit pre-cleared in Chile does not normally require reinspection at U.S. ports.

The amended regulations will be published in the Oct. 19 Federal Register and will take effect Nov. 19.

Questa Glenn (301) 436-7799

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## **USDA EXTENDS SEARCH FOR MEMBERS OF FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is extending until Nov. 19 its search for new members to serve two-year terms on the Advisory Committee on Foreign Animal and Poultry Diseases. The extension is intended to assure the broadest possible representation on the committee.

Nominations should be sent to Dr. M.A. Mixson, Chief Staff Veterinarian, VS, APHIS, USDA, Room 747, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

The advisory committee works closely with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and informs the secretary of agriculture on means to prevent, suppress, control or eradicate outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and other destructive foreign animal or poultry diseases in the event such diseases should enter the United States.

Amichai Heppner (301) 436-5222

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## **CARIBBEAN BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agribusiness Promotion Council will meet here at 9:00 a.m. Monday, Oct. 29, in Room 104-A of USDA's Administration Building, The Mall.

The council is composed of 18 members from the U.S. private sector appointed by the secretary of agriculture to advise him on policies and programs which will enhance agricultural and agribusiness development in



beneficiary countries of the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

At the meeting, which is open to the public, council members will be briefed by USDA and other government officials on aspects of the Caribbean Basin Initiative, and formulate recommendations to the secretary. Persons who wish to address the council or submit written statements before or after the meeting should contact Avram Guroff, Office of International Cooperation and Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14th and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250; telephone (202) 653-7710.

Laura Whitaker (202) 653-7589

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## **GENE-ENGINEERED COTTON WARDS OFF CATERPILLARS WITH NO INSECTICIDE**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23—Cotton plants, given new genes, were about as bug-free as regular cotton sprayed with insecticide in their first outdoor tests this summer by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Mississippi, Texas, Arizona and California.

Scientists at USDA's Agricultural Research Service said the genetically engineered plants, developed by Monsanto Co., cause caterpillars to come down with a fatal case of indigestion, often after eating "only a bite or two" from leaves or bolls. Plant geneticist Johnie Jenkins of ARS said. "Nearly all the caterpillars died within four days," he said.

The test plants are called transgenic because scientists at Monsanto in St. Louis inserted a gene from a different organism, a commercially available natural bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, or Bt. The gene enables Bt to make a protein toxic to many caterpillar species. The transgenic plants make a similar protein. ARS and university scientists tested the plants under a cooperative research agreement with Monsanto.

Jenkins conducted tests with Mississippi State University scientists in Starkville, Miss., where he heads the ARS Crop Science Research Laboratory. Cotton growers often spend \$50 to \$75 an acre on insecticide against the tobacco budworm and related caterpillars, he noted.

In Texas, tobacco budworms and cotton bollworms are "immense" problems on about half the 4.4 million acres of the state's \$1.5 billion cotton crop, said geneticist David Altman at the ARS Southern Crops Research Laboratory in College Station.

“If the new technology passes all its tests,” said Altman, “it could provide additional pest control options for cotton growers.” Currently, many growers spray more than 10 times per season, added Altman, who ran field tests in cooperation with Texas A&M University.

“We saw almost no caterpillar damage in the transgenic lines despite high natural infestations on the plots,” said Texas A&M entomologist John Benedict.

In Arizona and California, the budworm usually isn’t a problem but its relative the pink bollworm is, said ARS research leader Doug Wilson in Phoenix. “The transgenic cotton was highly resistant to the bollworm” and did a fair job of warding off three of its leaf-eating cousins, said Wilson at the ARS Cotton and Insect Genetics Research unit. He ran tests in cooperation with University of Arizona scientists in Maricopa, Ariz., and ARS colleagues in Brawley, Calif.

Besides the four sites involving ARS, transgenic cotton was tested by state and university scientists in Lubbock, Texas, and Shreveport, La., and Monsanto scientists in Loxley, Ala.

At each ARS location, researchers ran trials of seven lines of cotton: five different Bt-gene lines developed from a commercial variety, Coker 312, plus a non-Bt Coker 312 and a locally popular variety. Each line was grown in eight 30-foot rows. Half the rows were sprayed with insecticide.

At Starkville, test plants were challenged with artificial infestations of budworms equal to “four or five times worse than what a grower is likely to face,” Jenkins said. That meant placing 12 newly hatched budworms on every foot of the test rows weekly for five weeks.

All parts of the new plants that are consumed by the insects apparently produce the budworm-killing protein. Starkville researchers are checking to see how much of the protein is produced by leaves, bolls and other tissues.

On one of the five Bt-gene cotton lines tested at Starkville, Jenkins noted, budworms damaged only 5 percent of the buds. This line yielded nearly as much “seedcotton”—the material that goes into a cotton gin—as a line of plants that were identical, except they lacked the Bt gene, and were sprayed weekly with insecticide, he said.

In the Arizona tests, Wilson and ARS entomologist Hollis Flint released adult pink bollworm moths 22 times over a period of about two months “plus we had natural infestations on top of that,” Wilson said.



In Texas, said Altman, “we wanted to see how the plants would hold up to natural infestations. We knew we’d get plenty of budworms and cotton bollworms, and we did. They damaged 25 percent of the buds on the unsprayed control plants. The best cotton line with a Bt gene, with no spray, had less than one percent bud damage.”

Jenkins cautioned that researchers have yet to determine if the Bt genes affect cotton fiber quality, boll size and other traits. The first results are expected before the end of the year.

Altman said the first commercial bacterial sprays of Bt went on the market 30 years ago. One of these, called HD-1, was identified by retired ARS microbiologist Howard Dulmage in Texas, Altman noted.

Repeat sprays of Bt are needed because the bacteria can’t tolerate sunlight and are washed off plants by rain. “This has limited Bt’s use by farmers,” Altman said, “but Monsanto engineered the plant with the HD-1 gene so it continuously makes the protein and minimizes these problems.”

In the tests, the Bt protein in the experimental plants was toxic to caterpillars of several lepidopteran moths, including tobacco budworm (*Heliothis virescens*), cotton bollworm (*H. zea*), pink bollworm (*Pectinophora*), and beet armyworm (*Spodoptera exigua*).

The adult boll weevil (*Anthonomus grandis*), a major pest of cotton in the south and southeast, is unaffected by this Bt protein regardless of whether by transgenic cotton plants or by the naturally occurring bacteria.

Altman and Monsanto researchers are in early stages of work to construct new gene combinations to give cotton additional sources of insect resistance. “The basic idea,” he said, “is to combine Bt genes with cotton genes that cue the plant to produce natural compounds toxic to the budworm and that give the plant traits such as hairlessness.” Minute hairs on cotton plants help the budworm moth’s eggs stay on the plant.

The Bt gene still has to be bred from the experimental lines into existing commercial varieties that have other high-quality traits. Monsanto already is working with seed companies to do that, said Randy Deaton, senior research specialist with the firm in St. Louis. He coordinated all seven of the field trials for the company.

To make the transgenic plants, Monsanto scientists modified the Bt genes to boost the protein’s production. In a lab, they inserted the genes into DNA of cells from Coker 312 cotton. Then they grew the

transformed cells into seedbearing plants and increased the supply in a greenhouse.

After USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service issued permits for the tests, Monsanto turned over seed, which had directly inherited the new genes, to researchers. Next year, the researchers will again evaluate this year's top-performing lines, plus some new ones.

Jim De Quattro (301) 344-4296

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES PREVAILING WORLD MARKET RICE PRICES**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23—Acting Under Secretary of Agriculture John B. Campbell today announced the prevailing world market prices of milled rice, loan rate basis, as follows:

- long grain whole kernels, 8.28 cents per pound;
- medium grain whole kernels, 7.32 cents per pound;
- short grain whole kernels, 7.27 cents per pound;
- broken kernels, 4.14 cents per pound.

Based upon these prevailing world market prices for milled rice, rough rice world prices are estimated to be:

- long grain, \$5.20 per hundredweight;
- medium grain, \$4.72 per hundredweight;
- short grain, \$4.70 per hundredweight.

The prices announced are effective today at 3 p.m. EDT. The next scheduled price announcement will be made Oct. 30, at 3 p.m. EST, although prices may be announced sooner if warranted.

Gene Rosera (202) 447-7923

#

## **USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSED VIRGINIA TOBACCO MARKET MERGER**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold a public hearing Oct. 30 at 9 a.m., in the Conference Room, Holiday Inn, Interstate 85 and Highway 58, South Hill, Va., on a



proposal to merge the “designated” (i.e., USDA-monitored) flue-cured tobacco auction markets of Kenbridge and South Hill, Va.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service, said the proponents of the proposal, the Kenbridge Tobacco Board of Trade, claim merger of the markets would allow growers of flue-cured tobacco to sell their tobacco at either site, depending on marketing conditions.

The proponent says this would encourage tobacco farmers in their area to assign more of their tobacco to these two markets, which, because of increased volume to sell, could give them more sale days. More sale days are desirable, claims the proponent, because sellers could balance the higher prices of one day with the lower prices of another.

Under federal law, flue-cured tobacco farmers must designate one or more auction warehouses through which their tobacco may be sold in a given year.

The Tobacco Inspection Act requires USDA inspection of tobacco sold at designated markets. Price supports are also available for tobacco delivered to these markets for sale.

Notice of the hearing is published in today’s Federal Register. Copies and additional information on the proposal are available from the director, Tobacco Division, rm. 502 Annex, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, telephone (202) 447-2567.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

#

## **USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSED TOBACCO AUCTION MARKET FOR GEORGIA**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—The U.S. Department of Agriculture will hold a public hearing Nov. 1, at 10 a.m., in the Irwin County Court House, Irwin Ave., Ocilla, Ga., on a proposal for a new “designated” (i.e., USDA-monitored) flue-cured tobacco auction market in Ocilla.

Daniel D. Haley, administrator of USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service, said the proponents of the proposal—two Fitzgerald, Ga., tobacco warehouse operators—claim the existing modern facilities under sprinkler fire protection in Ocilla would be a good match for the older nearby Fitzgerald warehouse.

As part of their proposal, the proponents also would merge the Ocilla market, when designated, with the currently designated Fitzgerald market, allowing tobacco to be moved between the two warehouses as marketing conditions require. The proponents say that way they could market more economically because they would not have to invest heavily in renovating the old warehouse, and also they could have more sale days. More sale days are desirable, they claim, because sellers could balance the higher prices of one day with the lower prices of another.

Under federal law, flue-cured tobacco farmers must designate one or more auction warehouses through which their tobacco may be sold in a given year.

The Tobacco Inspection Act requires USDA inspection of tobacco sold at designated markets. Price supports are also available for tobacco delivered to these markets for sale.

Notice of the hearing is published in today's Federal Register. Copies and additional information on the proposal are available from the director, Tobacco Division, rm. 502 Annex, AMS, USDA, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, telephone (202) 447-2567.

Clarence Steinberg (202) 447-6179

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## **USDA PROTECTS SEVEN NEW PLANT VARIETIES**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—The U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued certificates of protection to developers of seven new varieties of seed-reproduced plants, including corn, red fescue, perennial ryegrass and soybean.

Kenneth H. Evans, with USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said developers of the new varieties will have the exclusive right to reproduce, sell, import, and export their products in the United States for 18 years. Certificates of protection are granted after a review of the breeders' records and claims that each new variety is novel, uniform and stable.

The following varieties have been issued certificates of protection:

—the HB8229, the 78551S, and the 2FACC varieties of corn, developed by DeKalb Plant Genetics, DeKalb, Ill.;

—the Shademaster variety of red fescue, developed by Pure-Seed Testing Inc., Hubbard, Ore.;



—the 856 variety of perennial ryegrass, developed by International Seeds Inc., Halsey, Ore.;

—the Deltapine 415 variety of soybean, developed by the Delta & Pine Land Co., Scott, Miss.; and

—the Hartz 6200 variety of soybean, developed by Jacob Hartz Seed Co. Inc., Stuttgart, Ark.

The plant variety protection program is administered by AMS and provides marketing protection to developers of new and distinctive seed-reproduced plants ranging from farm crops to flowers.

Carolyn Coutts (202) 447-8998

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## **USDA FARM OUTLOOK BRIEFING AVAILABLE ON SATELLITE NOV. 27**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—On Tuesday, Nov. 27, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will televise, via satellite, briefings from its Agricultural Outlook Conference from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST.

Bruce L. Gardner, assistant secretary of agriculture for economics, said the aim is to provide a perspective on world events and how they may affect trends and opportunities for U.S. agriculture in the coming year and beyond.

A satellite antenna that can receive C-Band signals is needed to downlink the televised briefings. The transmission will be on Westar V, transponder 11X, channel 22, and will be directed over the continental United States. Viewers should use a downlink frequency of 4140 megahertz and an audio frequency of 6.2/6.8 megahertz. Test and tone will start at 10 a.m. EST.

Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence S. Eagleberger will open the televised briefings at 10:30 a.m. EST, discussing developments in domestic and foreign policy important to agriculture. Their remarks will be retransmitted for West Coast viewers starting at 12:15 p.m. EST.

At 1:30 p.m. EST, Sidney L. Jones, assistant secretary of the treasury for economic policy, will present the economic outlook and USDA officials will discuss 1991 prospects for farmers, consumers and agricultural exports.

Noted Washington agricultural consultant Carol Brookins will host a

panel on Western and Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union starting at 3:15 p.m. EST. Invited panelists include Condoleezza Rice, special assistant to the president and senior director for soviet affairs, National Security Council; Richard W. Rahn, chief economist for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and ambassadors from Eastern and Western Europe. The transmission will end at 5 p.m. EST.

The conference will continue Wednesday, Nov. 28, with sessions covering commodity prospects and new farm policies, and Thursday morning, Nov. 29, with plenary sessions on environmental and energy issues for agriculture. These sessions will not be available on satellite.

For conference information, call (202) 447-3050 or write Outlook Conference, Rm. 5143-S. USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250-3900. For press arrangements, call Diane Decker, (202) 786-1494.

Raymond L. Bridge (202) 447-5447

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## **USDA ANNOUNCES FINAL GRADE LOAN RATES FOR 1990-CROP BURLEY TOBACCO**

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation today announced the final grade loan rates for the 1990-crop of burley tobacco.

These rates are unchanged from the preliminary rates announced May 29 except for the addition of two new mixed green grades, M4G and M5G, and minor rate changes in seven other grades.

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service published the amended grades in the Oct. 4 Federal Register.

1990-Crop Burley Tobacco Type 31, Price Support Schedule

*Chart on next page.*



GRADE	LOAN RATE	GRADE	LOAN RATE	GRADE	LOAN RATE	GRADE	LOAN RATE
(Dollars per Hundred Pounds, Farm Sales Weight)							
B1F	175	B3GF*	132	T4GR	120	X1F	169
B2F	172	B4GF*	129	T5GR	110	X2F	166
B3F	170	B5GF*	125			X3F	164
B4F	168			C1L	163	X4F	160
B5F	166	B3GR*	134	C2L	162	X5F	151
B4GR*	130	C3L	161				
B2FL	161	B5GR*	124	C4L	159	X4M	133
B3FL	158			C5L	154	X5M	128
B4FL	153	T3F	158				
T4F	151	C1F	170	X4G	117		
B1FR	177	T5F	146	C2F	168	X5G	106
B2FR	174			C3F	167		
B3FR	172	T3FR	157	C4F	166	M3F	117
B4FR	170	T4FR	151	C5F	162	M4F	113
B5FR	168	T5FR	146			M5F	107
C3K	139						
B1R	173	T3R	156	C4K	132	M3FR	117
B2R	170	T4R	151	C5K	128	M4FR	112
B3R	168	T5R	146			M5FR	109
B4R	165			C3M	150		
B5R	163	T4D	124	C4M	143	M4K	100
T5D	116	C5M	136	M5K	90		
B4D	123						
B5D	115	T4K	120	C3V	155	M4G**	96
T5K	111	C4V	149	M5G**	92		
B3K	139			C5V	143		
B4K	135	T4VF	136			N1L	99
B5K	130	T5VF	129	C4G	126		
C5G	118	N1F	101				
B2M	155	T4VR	136				

*Chart continued on next page.*

B3M	153	T5VR*	129	X1L	168	N1R	103
B4M	147			X2L	165		
B5M	141	T4GF	118	X3L	163	N1G	80
T5GF	110	X4L	159				
B3VF	150			X5L	152		
B4VF	144						
B5VF	138						
B3VR	146						
B4VR	143						
B5VR	137						

\*Minor rate changes from the May 29 announcement.

\*\*New grades for 1990-crop.

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### HISPANIC EDUCATION CHALLENGE FORUM TO PROMOTE CAREERS IN AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25—The U. S. Department of Agriculture is opening high-level policy discussions on the growing shortage of Americans needed for professional careers in agricultural research and agribusiness.

On Friday, Oct. 26, USDA’s Office of Higher Education and the Soil Conservation Service, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and Texas A&I University are cosponsoring the Science and Education Challenge Forum in Arlington, Va., on “Forging New Partnerships to Attract Hispanic Talent to Careers in Agriscience and Agribusiness.”

“USDA’s concern for human resource issues is reflected in the continuing sponsorship of programs designed to strengthen education and science at all levels. A critical part of this effort focuses on increasing the participation of Hispanics,” said Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeutter.

With a projected shortfall over the next decade of people being prepared to meet the nation’s needs in agricultural research and agribusiness, USDA is exploring ways to recruit more Hispanics.

“In the years ahead, Hispanics will comprise a growing proportion of the pool of U.S. students from which agriculture must draw future

educators, scientists, and business professionals. Our nation must be more effective in attracting and advancing Hispanic youth into agriscience and agribusiness opportunities,” Yeutter said.

There are several factors contributing to the difficulty in attracting Hispanics to professional careers in agriculture and one of them is socio-cultural, according to Rep. E (Kika) de la Garza (D-Tex.), chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture and a participant in the Challenge Forum.

“For young Hispanics there is a tendency to equate agricultural careers with memories of their parents who work in the fields,” said de la Garza.

But according to USDA statistics, it’s not field workers the nation needs, but researchers in such areas as biochemistry, nutrition and agricultural engineering. There also is a growing shortage of financial analysts, accountants, managers, commodity brokers and technical service representatives, USDA’s Office of Higher Education reports.

“The National Challenge Forum provides an excellent starting point in improving our efforts to direct young Hispanic talents to the agriculture-related professions. It’s time to step up from the fields of broccoli and strawberries to the fields of agribusiness and agriscience,” said de la Garza.

The Challenge Forum will be at the Holiday Inn Hotel-National Airport, 1489 Jefferson Davis Highway in Arlington from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Participating in the Challenge Forum will be senior policy makers from USDA, the U. S. Department of Education, Hispanic leaders, representatives of the higher education system for food and agricultural sciences, and private industry.

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